MATSON

14 March, 1938. 40473 TT

METHODIST.

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE MATSON.

Re Inquiry.

Matson family identified with founding of early Primitive Palgrave church is that of Isaac Matson -- E. half, Lot 24 or 27 (sic), Con. 6 - 7th line.

Matson family identified with founding of early Palgrave Anglican church is that of David Matson -- brother of Isaac -- residing on different properties here but never outside the parish -- South half Lot 25, Con. 6. ('string hundred' running back full concession from 7th to 6th line -- Dominion Hotel. across lane from this property (Hotel cornered by his old lane & 7th line) -- a farm on 6th line -- & lastly to E half Lot 30, Con. 6.--(corner of 7th line & 30 sideline) where he died. (was also a time on W. half Lot 25, Con. 8)

....

Sm
TT

Miss Matson, Mr. Robert Matson, Palgrave. 40474
Mr. Robert Matson.

P

3 Meredith Crescent,
Toronto.

I am collecting data for a history of the County of Peel and would like you to kindly fill in the questionnaire below and return it to me as early as you conveniently can, and oblige.

Wm. Perkins Bull.

GENERAL PEEL QUESTIONNAIRE

Indians.

What Indian relics, if any, have been found in your neighbourhood, and what became of them?

None to her knowledge.

Do you recall any stories of dealings of early settlers with Indians; going hunting or fishing with them; being alarmed, injured, or helped by them; doing business with them by sale or barter; or giving to them when they begged; etc? Richard

Rowleys -- One of the original Rowleys, a pioneer of Palgrave, settled beside a lake which for many years went by the name of Rowley's Lake, and is known now locally as Gibson's Lake. At that time the district was heavily forested and infested with wild animals and Indians. From his cabin window, this settler and his wife used to

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The week their first baby arrived a party of Indians came to the cabin at midnight and made known by signs that they were hungry. Rowley fortunately was able to supply their wants. As they gorged themselves, the cry of the baby reached them, and they signed for it to be brought from the room. Imagine the feeling of Rowley and his wife on this request. But they complied with it. The child was passed from one to the other and then returned safely and the Indians departed. This episode made staunch friends of the Indians and many a pound of venison found its way to the Rowley cabin afterwards from the Red man.

Pioneer Life.

Do you recall any stories told by old settlers of catastrophies, accidents, practical jokes, amusing incidents, contests of skill and strength, romances, hairbreadth escapes, or unusual provisions, shelters or houses, tools, furniture, clothing, or methods of transportation, which the early settlers were obliged to use?

What farms or businesses or other properties in your neighbourhood are still in the possession of descendants of the original settlers on crown grants?

Possibly John Rowley, originally belonged to David Rowley, at Cedar Mills subway.

40474 A

History of Communities (YOUR OWN AND ANY OTHER YOU KNOW)

Name of community, or village, and origin of name?

Palgrave --

Date of settlement, and first settler?

See Misses Shore at Subway.

Where did the majority of the early settlers come from?
Irish.

Name, location and present condition of first churches in neighbourhood.

Primitive Methodist, now United Church, and Anglican, service held in school until church built.

Name location and present condition of first schools in neighbourhood?

Original school now next door to Queen's hotel having been moved from original site.

Location, date of building, and present condition of other public buildings.

Where and of what sort is the oldest house in your neighbourhood, and what is its history?

Little log hut beside Mr. Robert Matson's.

The oldest store?

A general store -- the butcher shop across from the Queen's hotel, originally called the Dominion Hotel.

The oldest inn?

The Queen's Hotel, built the year the railroad from Hamilton to Allandale was built.

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The oldest inn?

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40475

Is there, or has there been, a post office in this community, and if so, during what years, and opened by what postmaster?

Is there, or has there been, a railroad station in this community, and if so, on what line and during what years?

Station on Hamilton - Allandale road.

Distinguished Citizens. (If still living please give address)

What men have gone out of your community to political distinction?

Well-known figures in fraternal organizations?

Roy Lavery for fraternal & family history.

Extremely wealthy men and women?

Prominent clergymen, doctors, lawyers, etc., with provincial or wider reputations?

A great many youths of Palgrave were with the Railroad in boom days.

Among those who attained outstanding successwere Lawrence Coulter of Weston, and Wm. Fulford of St. Thomas.

Writers, artists, designers, musicians, architects, actors, etc.?

Have any of the less well-known religious denominations and sects had congregations in your neighbourhood? For example, Plymouth Brethren, Christian Scientists, Quakers, Seventh Day Adventists, etc.?

Are there many Jews in your neighbourhood?

Is there a public library, and if so, since when, and of what size and nature?

What great occasions have been celebrated by the community, royal visits, returns of distinguished sons, conventions, reunions, anniversaries, etc.?

What serious epidemics, if any, have afflicted your community?

Have there been any family feuds, splits in churches, election rows, etc.?

Are any unusual businesses carried on in your neighbourhood, any unusual crops grown, or stock kept on the farms, etc.?

What fairs are attended by the farmers of your district, and have they won any unusual awards?

Give names, addresses, and other particulars of any breeders, importers, exhibitors or owners of pure-bred live-stock or poultry, in your neighbourhood.

40476 A

What residents of your community have very old dishes, books, tools, furniture, musical instruments or similar antiquities?

To what extent are electric lighting and power, telephones and water-works, general in your community?

Are there any regular social events, holiday celebrations, etc., which are a long tradition in your community?

In the case of early settlers, your own ancestors, or others, did they clear their own land?

If not, who did?

What springs and flowing wells were in your neighbourhood and where?

Are they still there?

Toronto, Ont.
August 1932.

ml

R8

40477 Mrs. Thompson
Palgrave

1

F

~~Mrs. Wm. Sanderson (Pulfer)~~
~~Brampton.~~

3 Meredith Crescent,
Toronto.

R8.
CV

File
Matson

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Indians.

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Pioneer Life.

Do you recall any stories told by old settlers of catastrophies, accidents, practical jokes, amusing incidents, contests of skill and strength, romances, hairbreadth escapes, or unusual provisions, shelters or houses, tools, furniture, clothing, or methods of transportation, which the early settlers were obliged to use?

5th of June '90 or '91 children couldn't get home from school because of a terribly big flood. 9 or 10 ft. deep over road. Some children drowned (?)
great grandmother used a rabbit skin cured sewed like a sack, hung up and shook to make butter

What farms or businesses or other properties in your neighbourhood are still in the possession of descendants of the original settlers on crown grants?

ml

40173

History of Communities (YOUR OWN AND ANY OTHER YOU KNOW)

Name of community, or village, and origin of name?

Date of settlement, and first settler?

Where did the majority of the early settlers come from?

Name, location and present condition of first churches in neighbourhood.

anglican 1st then this corner ch.

Name location and present condition of first schools in neighbourhood?

Berfiehurg on 26 lot 7 Con

Location, date of building, and present condition of other public buildings.

Where and of what sort is the oldest house in your neighbourhood, and what is its history?

Old grogan near the grave.

The oldest store?

1st store [illegible] T. McCauley
[illegible] P.O. is now

The oldest inn?

[illegible] site Mr Rogers

Is there, or has there been, a post office in this community, and if so, during what years, and opened by what postmaster?

Palgrave p.o. 1 mi south of village

Is there, or has there been, a railroad station in this community, and if so, on what line and during what years?

Distinguished Citizens. (If still living please give address)

What men have gone out of your community to political distinction?

Well-known figures in fraternal organizations?

Extremely wealthy men and women?

Prominent clergymen, doctors, lawyers, etc., with provincial or wider reputations?

Writers, artists, designers, musicians, architects, actors, etc.?

40480

Athletes?

Military heroes, and officers of high rank?

Scientists and inventors?

Criminals?

People distinguished by physical peculiarities, if any, such as midgets, giants, siamese twins, etc., or by longevity, very large families, etc.?

Miscellaneous.

Are there any non-Anglo-Saxon families in your community, and if so, of what nationalities?

When did such families come in?

[illegible]

What militia units have operated in your neighbourhood and at what times?

Are there any private schools in your neighbourhood, or have there been any in the past? Give what particulars you can?

Have any of the less well-known religious denominations and sects had congregations in your neighbourhood? For example, Plymouth Brethren, Christian Scientists, Quakers, Seventh Day Adventists, etc.?

Are there many Jews in your neighbourhood?

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Are they still there?

Toronto, Ont.
August 1932.

40483 ep

RS, JCW

ALBION TOWNSHIP - BY LAWS

BY LAW No

6 February 1904

. . .

. . . That Robt.#Matson is hereby Appointed Treasurer of the Township of Albion

. . .

Passed . . .

ml RS 69

40484

ALBION TOWNSHIP BY-LAWS

Bylaw No 149.

4 March, 1905.

...

That Robt Matson is hereby appointed Treasurer of the Township of Albion.

...

ml

40485

ALBION TOWNSHIP BYE LAWS

By-Law No. 190

9 August, 1909.

...

That Robert Matson is hereby appointed Clerk of the Said Township of Albion...

. . .

Passed. . .

14 March, 1938. TT

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE MATSON.

40486

Pioneer.

. . . .

In speaking of the members of the Matson family seeking employment the reader naturally wonders why not find all sufficient work on the father's farm. The explanation is simple. It was a rented farm with only sufficient clearance to occupy the time of Hugh & wife themselves. & a tenant did not clear an unowned farm, having neither benefit nor authority. Later, with a chosen site of permanent abode selected & ownership attained, would come the task of clearing & improving.

....

gm
TT

40487

John Matson

The Conservator, Sept. 14th, 1922.
Obituary.

40488

JOHN MATSON

With vigor that was remarkable for his age, John Matson of Orangeville, was able to be up and about until within a month of his death which took place on Sept. 1. He was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, in 1831, and came to Canada at the age of 21, settling in Chinguacousy, near Mono Road. In 1853, he joined the Orange Order, with which he has been strictly associated ever since. Last year at the demonstration in Orangeville, he was presented with a silk umbrella, for being the oldest man in the parade. Two daughters, Mrs. C. C. G. Hannah, Orangeville, Mrs. James Warnock, Caledon, and one son, W. J. Matson, Vancouver, B. C., survive, also one brother, Isaac Matson of Palgrave. He was an Anglican and a staunch Conservative in politics. The funreral, which took place to Orangeville Cemetery was under the auspices of the Orange Order.

1921
1831
90

TT

14 March, 1938.

40489

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE MATSON.

BURIALS

Hugh Matson passed away in early spring when roads had virtually ceased to exist by reason of the thaw, vehicular traffic was impossible (by wheel) & next thing to impossible by sleigh. A messenger on horseback was dispatched to convey tidings of his demise & funeral date to those Caledon & Chinguacousy pioneers who had first neighboured with him in Canada. On the funeral day they came (horseback) .... -- came to pay their last respects to one of their own type. It would appear that the following were amongst the pall-bearers:--William Nelson, James Nelson (later John Matson's father-in-law) John Wilson (later Isaac Matson's father-in-law), Wm. Rutherford, & John Beatty. The pall bearers were supplied by the undertaker with that type of covering employed in those days to protect pallbearers from rain. It was a cape or cloak called a ____________

Sm
TT

14 March, 1938.

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE MATSON.

cassock. In the drenching downpour the cortege proceeded down the seventh line (no hearse) to inter the first Matson in the Anglican Burying ground on the hill overlooking Bolton. Some idea of the day may be gathered **from** the fact that the dye of the cassocks could not withstand the rain & ruined the apparel of the pallbearers. Also, the undertaker (with help) baled out the grave before lowering the coffin with its 'rough box' (so called then) into the ground. ......

Sm
TT

TT

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE MATSON.

40491

JOHN MATSON.

Hugh's eldest son.

John Matson, married Martha Nelson of the Caledon-Chinguacousy Nelsons, and moved to W. half, Lot 23, Con. 7, Albion. The Matson brotherinlaw, Wm. McBride, having remarried a Beatty, moved likewise to Albion E. half, Lot 21, Con. 7, thus bringing all of Matson descent close together as McBride's three children were by his first wife Eliza Matson. John & wife did not reside long in the Palgrave area. They moved to the Orangeville district, the Albion farm being bought by Isaac Matson. John's wife predeceased him by many years. John was for decades a citizen of Orangeville, in a house near C.P.R. station. He was according to consensus of opinion the most widely-known & popular figure within a twenty five mile radius (this was the extreme limit of anyone's

Sm
TT

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE MATSON.

general acquaintanceship then -- horse vehicle days). Having reached the age of maturity before leaving Ireland he never lost the brogue & colloqualisms peculiar to Donegal at that time. The writer has watched in vain for the same quaint Irishisms in youthful emigrants in recent years from Donegal & ascertains that they are seldom heard even there in these modern days. A common Donegal expression prefacing a remark was "De'il an abut" whose significance I am unable to explain. Whiskey was "whusky" h~~le~~ave was "hae", bad was "bawd", and of was ~~the~~ invariably contracted to O', damned was "domned".

One would suppose that a man of pronounced ideas with the cognomen of 'Tory Johnny' would at least have political foes, but 'nary a 'wan' (one) did he possess. Grits swore eternal friendship by

SM
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INFORMATION FROM OLLIE MATSON.

'Tory Johnny' just as unanimously as did his political allies, & Johnny, in return, could perceive all xxxxx virtues in all Grits as individuals, albeit he could discern no tittle of virtue in any political platform they ever framed or stood upon. He never was able to find a single sound plank in a Liberal platform during a whole century (died age 94) & gloried in kicking the unsound political planks about until the whole platform tottered. This slightly biased political view gave some local Orangeville wags a chance to initiate a newly fledged drummer (commercial traveller) into the ways of the road. An experienced drummer would never have dropped into the trap. While this history relates to Peel I feel justified in following an ex-Palgrave man (Johnny) over the county border line a few rods to a hotel on south Broadway (main street of

Sm
TT

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE MATSON.

Orangeville).

A peaceful group sitting conversing in the bar. From the little sitting room off the end of the bar came the drummer's voice energetically pushing his wares to the proprietor, the said wares being cigars. (May I remark in passing that in those little end sitting rooms I have heard orders given in those days for ten & fifteen thousand cigars, with less discussion than a present day tobacco salesmen would employ in disposing of a few hundred. A heavy percentage of cigars sold in hotels then were never smoked. They accumulated in vest pockets when drinks were coming too fast for the patron's desire or capacity by reason of the treating system. Later they would become crushed in the pocket & be discarded. This wastage was particularly appalling in the colder months by reason of the heavy overcoats worn, & the loading & unloading of sleighs, pressure against pockets causing havoc to cigars.)

TT

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE MATSON. 40495

Reverting to our story, the drummer clinched his sale & booked his order. The proprietor strolled out. A wag strolled in to where the satisfied salesman was rearranging & packing his samples.

A more seasoned drummer would have smelt something rotten in Denmark when this soft-voiced stranger sought to tender advice in tones too low the reach the bar inmates, but this fledgling drummer took it hook, sinker, line & all, even thanking the advice donator.

That worthy explained that he was just about to depart but could not resist throwing a helpful hint to one who was obviously a newcomer to the road. Personal friendship helped sales. Patrons often called for particular cigars because they knew the travelling purveyor, & liked him.

SM
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TT

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE MATSON.

40496

Now out in that bar were none but hardshell Grits who congregated there from motives of political friendship, stated the wag. He would advise the drummer to keep this in mind when buying 'drinks for the house', (an unvarying custom of cigar travellers immediately after receiving an order & getting repacked.) & propose a suitable toast.

The wag departed from the hotel. (A significant act to his comrades in view of the certainty of a coming treat. They wondered -- & waited). In a brief time the drummer emerged briskly into the bar with a ~~xxxxx~~ genial invitation to join him by 'naming anything they liked'. (This being the courteous way of conveying the idea that they could even go the limit by ordering a ten cent cigar or ten cent drink -- all cigars & drinks commonly used being only five cents.)

gm
TT

T

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE WATSON.

"I'll hae a glass O'whusky", quoth the man from Donegal. Others called their choice. When all glasses were arrayed in order Tory Johnny picked up his 'whusky'.

"Here's till (to) ye" with true Irish politeness & a slight bow of the head toward the man 'standing treat'.

"Just a moment", the drummer spoke in time to arrest the actual drinking. "I feel that we should have a toast, & I mean to propose one".

Barroom toast being not uncommon, Tory Johnny maintained his glass in its raised position & waited as did the others.

Sm
TT

"I am a stranger, but a reader of men", resumed the drummer, "& looking at you gentlemen ranged along the bar I can see at a glance that we are all of one political persuasion".

He paused for effect. With glass still poised Tory Johnny stole a glance along the row of faces. Something was wrong. There was a mixture of politics, some Tories & a sprinkling of Liberals. The latter were good fellows -- genuinely good fellows -- Johnny was friend to them all -- but to be classed with them politically was going a bit far.

"And", continued the 'reader of men', "Looking at the intelligent expression of all faces here, it is needless to name that political party. I therefore propose long life, good health, & political prosperity to our newly selected & beloved leader -- Wilfred Laurier".

SM
TT

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE WATSON.

"Domned if I'll drink it, ye insultin' spalpane", came a bellicose roar in tones of thunder and Tory Johnny's glass crashed downward on the bar its shattered fragments mingling with the 'whusky'.

Some twenty years later the writer jogged the memory of the bartender (who wiped up the mess) concerning this episode. Despite the lapse of years that bartender leaned against the table and roared with laughter as he recalled the stunned expression of bewildered horror on that drummer's face as he realized that he had been hoaxed & left by the hoaxter to face one irate son of Erin whose age had in no wise abated his pugnaciousness.

Sm
TT

As the drummer later explained what made it worse was the feeling that he had unwittingly

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE MATSON.

insulted a hotel patron & would thereby lose patronage himself. He need not have worried on that score. The proprietor in the hallway was leaning weakly against the wall struggling to get back his breath. He had realized instantly that the drummer was a victim of some local punster.

What added to the amusement at a later date (but not known then) was the fact that the drummer came of a family of prominent working Tories, his private view being nearly as rabid Toryism as Johnny's own. He probably never again resorted to political trickery or political deception to obtain business.

All of which goes to show that one could learn a moral in an old time barroom despite clerical asseverations to the contrary.

Sm
TT

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE MATSON.

John Matson was a member of the Orange Order & an ardent follower of Orangeville's famous lacrosse teams for decades. He dearly loved to watch horse races. He evidently acquired this love of the 'ponies' as he termed them before leaving Ireland.

Tory Johnny's reputation for square dealing & straightforwardness extended to his son. He would tolerate no unfairness and this characteristic occasionally involved him in trouble. I recall one of these 'troubles' but I had better preface its telling by an explanation. Johnny was short of stature but his son, Bob, (who always lived with him) was six foot & some odd inches being built in proportion. His good humour was proportionate to his brawn but despite that he

gm
TT

TT

at times got into a fight -- not~~e~~ an uncommon thing at all in bygone days but usually the participants were of the hot-tempered variety whereas Bob was rarely, if ever, out of temper.

Walking down Broadway one night I came on Johnny leaning disconsolately against a wall, ~~xxxxx~~ cane in hand as usual. Noting that he was not his usual cheerful self I inquired if anything had gone amiss.

"'Tis the lad", he said, shaking his head gloomily, & referring to the son." A bawd lad I'm afeard! He comes up afore the Squire in the mornin'. I was up to see the Squire about it the night."

Sm
TT

Never having noticed any particular

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE MATSON.

'badness' to Bob & knowing that Johnny was a particular crony of the Squire (the aged Magistrate) & further knowing that the said Squire viewed Bob favourably, always halting him for a street chat, I was a bit puzzled. Naturally I sought particulars of the 'badness'.

"'Twere a fight", he said shaking his head sadly. (& how anyone born in Donegal could deplore a fight was a mystery to ~~xx~~ me, being of that descent myself) "Five O' thim were apickin' on wan maun". The Donegal man jerked himself from the wall & reared proudly erect-on cane. "The lad steppit in an' tookit thim all on. He knockit the damned heed (head) in O' wan spalpane completely. Musther (naming an aged constable) tookit the names.

Sm
TT

They be all up afore the Squire come mornin'."

The aged chief of Police (likewise he was the whole force) was another crony of Tory Johnny's, & an ardent admirer of Bob.

Five bruisers seemed rather heavy odds for even the redoubtable Bob to pit himself against, but it was a historical fact, & despite the Donegal man's gloom over the 'law breaking' he was highly elated at results -- likewise proud that the lad had defended the 'underdog'.

& herein, as I ascertained, lay the cause of Big Bob's fights. Citizens will declare, one & all, that they never knew him to enter

8m
TT

one on his own behalf. It was always for the other fellow. If his adversaries were of no particular prowess he dealt leniently by them in much the manner of contempt that a huge Newfoundland dog displays to smaller fry, but if more worthy ant~~o~~agonists presented themselves he just naturally reduced them to a condition that made it easy for 'musther' (the constable) to procure their names for which, no doubt, that officer was duly grateful. It appears that no ant~~o~~agonist ever held malice against him, nor he against another.

But strange to relate jovial Big Bob passed out at an early age (in the thirties). His funeral (Orange) was one of the largest known in those parts -- many say the largest.

Sm
TT

TT

40508

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE MATSON.

Another son of John Matson named Willie John went to British Columbia when comparatively young. At middle age he enlisted in the last war, returning to Vancouver afterwards, where he died a few years later.

Eliza, a daughter, married James Warnock, a farmer near Caledon village & is also listed with the dead at a comparatively early age.

Janie, another daughter, with whom Johnny Matson spent his last years, married Claire Hanna, an Orangeville business man, whose reputation for straightforward dealing seems to rank on a par with his father-in-law's. Janie suffered a double tragedy. As her husband's body lay in its casket, she received

8m
TT

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE MATSON.

a telegram announcing her brother Willie's death in Vancouver. She is the sole survivor of the family & resides at the old home in Orangeville. She retains the faith of her grandparents -- Anglicanism.

History of original Robert Matson being compiled, several done, mainly for purpose of working in current conditions of early days here insofar as they applied to his case.

Sm
TT

40508

Isaac Watson
& descendants

The Conservator, October 4, 1923.
Obituary

& descendants A

ISAAC MATSON

40509

Isaac Matson, of Palgrave, one of the true pioneers of the County of Peel, passed away to his well-earned rest on Saturday last at the advanced age of 87 years. He has been a resident of Canada for 80 years, and of the district in which he died 71 years. Born at Gortnaskeagh parish of Kilmacrenan, County Donegal, Ireland, he settled first at Kilmanagh, Caledon Township, and nine years later moved to Albion, one mile south of Palgrave. In 1867 he married Jane Wilson, daughter of the late John and Margaret Wilson, of the third line east, Caledon, who survives him. Of the union, there were born five sons and two daughters, of whom the survivors are Robert and Harry, Palgrave, and Mrs. W. J. Thompson, of Palgrave. During the fourteen years Mr. Matson has been a resident of the village, he has been one of its most honored citizens. He was a staunch member of the Anglican Church and a strong supporter of the Orange Order, having been an honorary member of L.O.L. No. 288, Palgrave. In politics he was a lifelong adherent of the Conservative party, and one of its most honored members in Peel. He was the last surviving member of his family, John the eldest, coming to Canada a year before the family, to look over the country; Robert, the first postmaster of the village; David and Mrs. William McBride all predeceasing him. The funeral took place on Monday to Laurel Hill Cemetery.

1923
87
1436

G.

CONSERVATOR

January 3, 1929. 40510
84
45.

OBITUARY

MATSON: Mrs. Isaac Matson, one of Palgrave's oldest citizens, died Saturday, Dec. 29th, in her 84th year. The oldest of thirteen children of Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson, she was born eighty years ago on the third line, Caledon, near the horseshoe. Marrying at the age of nineteen she and her husband moved to their farm, which no one had worked before then, Lot 24, concession 6, Albion, how occupied by Mrs. Robert Boyce, Property on the seventh line soon began to increase in value after their arrival. When the old Narrow Gauge Railway passed through Bolton, a few years later, a stage service was instituted from there to Keenansville, then famed for its busy Woollen Mills. The route followed the seventh line to Palgrave, then known as Buckstown, Ballycroy, Athlone and Loretta. Shortly after this a post office was started on the north-east corner of their farm and the first public school was established on part of their perperty. Retiring forty years later, in 1909, they moved to the house which they had built in Palgrave where they lived together until the death of Mr. Matson in 1923. She leaves three sons, Robert and Oliver, Palgrave, and

40511

THE CONSERVATOR

January 3, 1929.

OBITUARY

MATSON

Henry, Brampton; two daughters, Miss Eliza and Mrs. W. J. Thompson, both of Palgrave. The funeral took place to Laurel Hill Cemetery, Bolton.

40512

Robert Matson, a son of Isaac Matson, of E½ Lot 24, Con.6, says that his mother's maiden name was Wilson and that she was a sister of William Gott's first wife.

(Taken from George Robb's Letter, Sept.30/33
Ft. QU'Appelle.

MAT-SON

40513

INTERVIEW WITH MRS. MARY THOMPSON, Bolton, March 16th. A.F.

D

Children of Jane Wilson (daughter of John Wilson and Margaret Nelson) who married Isaac Matson.

There were seven children altogether:-

John - Died when only two years old.

Robert - Never married. He is still living but is now paralyzed.

William - Died when a baby.

Liza - Still living but unmarried.

Henry - Married Jane Wilson. (It is a coincidence that the girl he married had the same name as his mother although they were no relation whatever. Their birthdays, too, were fell on the same days.)

Mary - (Person interview) married Wilmot Thompson.
Mrs Mary Thompson

Oliver - Married Irene Ambler.

MATSON FILE. Mrs John Wilson 40514

When this Mrs. Wilson and her husband eloped from Ireland they were chased by her father, who caught them in Quebec, but by this time they were married, so he gave his daughter $4000. This money enabled her to send to Toronto for clothes, and probably kept them going fo many years, as it was a large sum in those days.

Bolton Enterprise Feb. 15, 1924

40515

Matson

—Mr. H. H. Matson, 7th line, Albion, has sold his farm to his neighbor, Mr. R. J. Boyce, and will retire from farming. He will hold an auction sale of stock and implements on Wednesday, March 5th.

Matson

INTERVIEW WITH MR. STEWART H. CAMERON, Bolton, March 16. A.F.

Re: Robert Matson. He is still living and is a bachelor. He took over the Dominion Hotel but this is in fairly recent years. His brother is still running it.

He had a brother Harry who was a farmer. He went into the Hotel business too through Robert then Hawley (?) took it over.

lton Enterprise 10 April, 1936.

40517

Matson

BOLTON, ONTARIO, FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 1936

ROBERT MATSON

Following an illness of several years' duration Robert Matson, prominent resident of Palgrave, passed away on Friday of last week. For five years before his death the late Mr. Matson had been practically confined to his bed. He had reached his 68th year, a son of the late Isaac Matson and Jane Wilson, of Albion. After farming for a short time he engaged in sessional work at the Ontario Legislature. For some years he held the position of clerk and treasurer of Albion Township in which capacities he was known as a careful and efficient official. Following a short term as clerk of the Fourth Division Court of Peel at Bolton he returned to Palgrave and engaged in the insurance and conveyancing business and for many years did a large trade in buying and shipping grain and potatoes. Until ill health prevented he was one of the district's most active and successful business men. He was a member of the Orange Order, a Conservative in politics and a member of the United Church. He is survived by two brothers, H. H. Matson of Brampton and I. O. Matson, of Palgrave, and two sisters, Miss E. Matson and Mrs. W. A. Thompson, Palgrave. Interment took place at Laurel Hill Cemetery, Bolton, on Sunday, service being conducted by Rev. T. W. W. Lane.

Matson

40518

Orangeville Banner, [illegible] 1936

ROBERT MATSON

Robert Matson, prominent in Palgrave business life, died in that village on Friday, April 3rd, in his 68th year. Deceased was born near Palgrave, the eldest son of the late Isaac Matson and Jane Wilson. After farming for a number of years he was engaged for some time at sessional work in the Ontario legislature during the Whitney regime. Later he became clerk and treasurer of the township of Albion and also held the position of Division Court clerk for a number of years. Twenty-five years ago he opened a conveyancing and insurance business in Palgrave and fifteen years ago embarked in the grain and potato business on an extensive scale with a modern loading and housing equipment. The late Mr. Matson was a member of the Orange and Black Orders. He was a member of the United Church and a staunch supporter of the Conservative party. He is survived by two brothers, H. H. Matson, Brampton, and I. O. Matson, Palgrave, and two sisters, Miss E. Matson and Mrs. W. A. Thompson, both living in Palgrave. Strangely Mr. Matson's death occurred on the day on which his successor as Division Court Clerk, Mr. F. E. Snider, of Bolton, was buried cemetery.

urel Hill

Stallion Owners in Peel County - continued

Owner	Address
Robert Matson,	Palgrave.

Year	Breed
1921	1 Clyde.
1922	1 Clyde.
1923	1 Clyde.

40520 Matson

Albion Council appointed Robt. Matson as Treasurer in 1907

Matson

40521 TT

& Hotels, [illegible]

Post Office:

The first Post Office of Palgrave was obtained by Robert Matson and was located on the N.E. corner of Lot 24, Con. 6, and was owned by Isaac Matson, and was named Palgrave by Robert Matson in honor of Sir Robert Palgrave a prominent English Politician of the day. (possibly originator of penny postage)

This same building where first post office was located was conducted as Dominion Hotel by, at different times, David Watson, Robert Matson, and Robert Evans. The last named man was well known as a conservative leader throughout Palgrave area. He was a cousin of George Evans who was a magistrate in Bolton for years. Robert Matson afterwards moved to Toronto and was associated with the National Life

ALSO OWNED:

Any further information:

TT

40532

Insurance Company at its inception. In later years the railroad passed a half mile north of the Dominion Hotel and a hamlet sprang up on this account and the Post Office was accordingly moved to the hamlet.

March 14, 1938. TT

40523

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE MATSON.

Pioneer

Isaac Matson made the Rutherford homestead his home ..... eventually selecting E. half ✓ M.K. Lot 24 Con. 6 - 7th line Albion Twp., whereon a log dwelling & stables had already been erected. Looking at that property today one naturally wonders why in ~~the~~ heaven's name a man starting out in life for himself would decide on that land instead of the choice, level variety ..... in Chinguacousy. ...

In the first place it was decidedly cheaper. Also the hills were reminiscent of Donegal & it was a common occurrence for an immigrant to locate in a district similar to what he had left both by reason of sentiment & the reasonable assumption that the same type of farming would apply as that to which he had been accustomed. (We must

Gm
TT

14 March, 1938.

TT

40524

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE MATSON.

remember that in the old lands (Eng. Scot. & Ire.) each district pretty well confined itself to the type of agriculture to which that district was adapted. ...... In Isaac's case the hills were his natural environment. Also, the hollows presented unlimited scope for drainage -- that farming characteristic so dear to the Irish heart. Also, the light nature of some portions of the farm clearly indicated suitability for potatoes. .... another feature of advantage lacking at the other points was an abundance of cedar for splitting into rails wherewith to fence the farm or sell to less fortunate localities. This district supplied rails for south Albion and the Toronto Gore fences, thousands from this same farm. ....

Gm
TT

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE MATSON.

POLITICS

.....we refer to the political faith of Isaac Matson. Instead of stating that bluntly we prefer to relate the following anecdote & leave the reader to infer Isaac's political tendencies.

A group of people in his presence were discussing the short comings of one unfortunate individual who had piled up a few sins & errors ..... to his credit. Isaac took no part in the hectic discussion, either to condone or condemn, but appeared to find the subject distasteful for he shifted about restlessly for some time before bursting into wrathful defence of that innocent victim of cruel gossip, & exposing the fallacy of such gossiping statements. We quote Isaac's outburst.

"There's nare a tittle o' truth in a word yere sayin'. That man never done a wrong in his

Sm
TT

INFORMATION FROM OLLIE MATSON.

whole life for I know him & his father afore him, en' nather ever voted anything but Tory". ......

gm
TT

40527

David Matson
& descendants

The Conservator Apr. 21, 1927.

P

40523

Albion

Obituary

Mrs. David Matson (Rolley)

The funeral took place on Monday to Palgrave Cemetery of Mrs. David Matson. Mrs. Matson, who was in her 79th year, was born a short distance from the village, a daughter of the late John Rolley, one of Albion's pioneer settlers. She had made her home continuously on the seventh line, Albion, was a lifelong member of St. Alban's Church, Palgrave, ...her husband predeceased her over twenty years ago. She is survived by four sons, William, David, Robert and Henry; one daughter, Mrs. W. Moffatt, Nobleton;

1927 79/6

W½ lot 27 Con 7 Albion

40529

NEW PALGRAVE CEMETERY

David Matson M

died April 8, 1890, aged 43 years.

His wife Hanna Rolley R

died April 15, 1927, aged 79 years.

A stone to mother.

Bolton, Friday, 14th January, 1916. Matson 40530

PALGRAVE.

The death of Ellen Lyness, beloved wife of James Jones, occurred at her home on Saturday, Jan. 1st. After a short service at her home on Monday conducted by the Rev. W. S. Westney of Bolton, the funeral took place to Snell's Burying Ground, Mono. The deceased leaves besides her husband five sons and three daughters to mourn her loss, Robert,
John,
Edward,
Sam,
Harry,
Mrs. David Matson,
Mrs. A. Wilson,
Mrs. L. Marshall.

40531

Matson

Matson Cemetery

Records

Laurel Hill Cemetery Bolton Ont

40532

Matson	Margaret Jane Moffatt wife of John Matson	44 yrs. 6 mo.	1913 Nov. 21.
s. of Hugh & Mary Pg. 153	(Jane Wilson	1849	1928 Dec. 29.
	(Isaac	1837	1923 Sept. 29.
	Native of Donegal, Ireland.		
	John	1868	1869 Sept. 18.
	Wm.	1874	1876 Oct. 10.
	~~Mayb~~e children of above		

40533

BOLTON METH. AND ANGLICAN CEM.

MATSON, In memory of Hugh Matson, n. of Donegal, Ireland,
died 22 March 1863, aged 57 yrs.

" William, son of Isaac and Jane Matson
died 10 Oct. 1876, aged 2 yrs.

" John, son of Isaac and Jane Matson, d. 18 Sept.
1889, aged 1 yr. 3 mos.

" Mary Elizabeth, dau. of David and Hanna Matson,
d. 27 Aug. 1872, aged 2 yrs. 4 mos. 21 dys.

Laurel Hill Cemetery, Bolton Ont.

40534

Matson (Hugh 1806 1863 Mar. 22.

Parents of Isaac Pg. 76

(His wife
(Mary (Harkness) 1804 1881 Mar. 7.

Natives of Donegal, Ireland.

Matson

40535

Matson data
awaiting to be
mailed

Matson

40536

The Bolton Enterprise
December 18, 1936

—Mrs. Robert T. Matson, of Tottenham, visited with her sister, Mrs. E. Odlum, last week.

Stallion Owners in Peel County - continued

Owner	Address
David Matson,	Bolton,

Year	Breed	
1914	1 Clyde.	
1915	1 Clyde.	(then living at Palgrave)
1916	1 Clyde.	(then moved to Castleberg)
1917	1 Clyde.	(moved back to Palgrave)

Stallion Owners in Peel County - continued

Owner	Address
John Matson,	Bolton, RR.#1.

Year	Breed
1926	1 Clyde.
1927	1 Clyde.
1928	1 Clyde.
1929	1 Clyde.
1930	1 Clyde.
1931	1 Clyde.
1932	1 Clyde.

40539

name of horse:

Inspect.

Baron Silver Prince, Clydesdale John Matson Bolton, R.R.1. 1932

Nov. 23/33

40540

James Matson, Palgrave.

Ginseng Grower.

Name given us by James C. Shearer,
Agricultural- Rep.
Brampton.
(See Ginseng folder)

Jan.12/33

Matson

40541

THE EVENING TELEGRAM, TORONTO, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 1931

J. H. S. Matson Dies Suddenly

Victoria, B.C., Publisher and Business Man Was Native of York County

Victoria, B.C., Nov. 2.—John Henry Samuel Matson, F.R.G.S., owner and publisher of the Daily Colonist, outstanding figure in the journalistic world, and a man who was in the forefront of British Columbia business and transportation matters for the past 40 years, died suddenly here shortly before noon yesterday, overcome by a heart attack as he was about to enter his automobile at his residence, West Bay, Esquimalt. He died a few minutes later in his home.

Mr. Matson was born April 21, 1869, in York County, Ont. He was educated at Pickering College, Day's Commercial College and the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph. After engaging in the lumber business in Michigan, he came to British Columbia in 1889, and entered business here as an insurance and general broker, having as a junior partner for a part of his business career Sir Arthur Currie, now president of McGill University, and formerly commander of the Canadian forces overseas during the Great War.

Sir Arthur Currie died about 3 weeks later.

ENTER NEWSPAPER FIELD.

Twenty-five years ago, July 13, 1906, the late Mr. Matson acquired the Victoria Daily Colonist, and four years later purchased the Vancouver News-Advertiser and the Nanaimo Herald. He later disposed of the two latter papers, but continued in active direction of the Colonist.

His interests outside of the newspaper field were extensive and varied. He gave to Vancouver Island the fine system of motor transportation that serves the needs of every district, established and directed the Gulf Island ferry service between Swartz Bay and Salt Spring Island, and the island freight service that operates over Vancouver Island.

Mr. Matson was married in 1899 to Miss Ada Theresa Galley, of Victoria. He is survived by his widow, one daughter, Mrs. P. A. C. Cousland, wife of Dr. Cousland, Victoria; two sons, J. R. and M. T. Matson, and two grandchildren, Mary Matson and John A. Cousland. Two sisters, Mrs. D'Arcy Hinds, of Toronto, and Miss Matson, a resident of Ontario, also survive.

Mr. Matson was a member of United Service Lodge, A.F. & A.M., and of the Union Club, Victoria. Funeral services will be held on Wednesday.

Dec 5/33
W.H

NS 22

File Matson family

40542

New Palgrave

MATSON, David, d. Apr. 8, 1890, aged 43. raised from Palgrave Ang.

Hanna Rolley, his wife, d. Apr. 15, 1927, aged 79.

See David Matson family writings previously sent.

Died E.h. L. 30 Con. 6 – 7th line just below townline

David Matson a founder of Palgrave Ang. church lay with lingering illness he knew would terminate in death. He was visited by another founder of same church, Jeremiah Taylor, whose little daughter was also sinking fast. David said he would like to be buried in the Palgrave Ang. church yard but disliked idea of being first placed there. Jeremiah told him the condition of his own daughter & that she would doubtless go first. One can picture the tragic scene back in those days when medical science was unable to cope with ailments & people calmly awaited Death.

Jeremiah's daughter, Florence May died Nov. 28 – 1889. & was first interment in the site her father had helped find. (Later to Laurel Hill – I have corrected [illegible] regarding burial L.H. folder) David Matson survived to Apr. 8 – 1890 & was second interment therein.

The roads of the spring season were so bad that the direct route down the seventh line was impassable to funeral. It was taken along townline to 6th line & back westward on Palgrave sideroad to reach village.

The third interment was Frank McCauley (see [illegible]) (Ang.) large funeral [illegible] from Bolton [illegible] Anglican Church

The fourth interment [illegible] ground was George Young [illegible] — one time warden

(Over)

and a half sister also survive him. His youngest son, Norman, was killed by lightning just six and a half months ago.

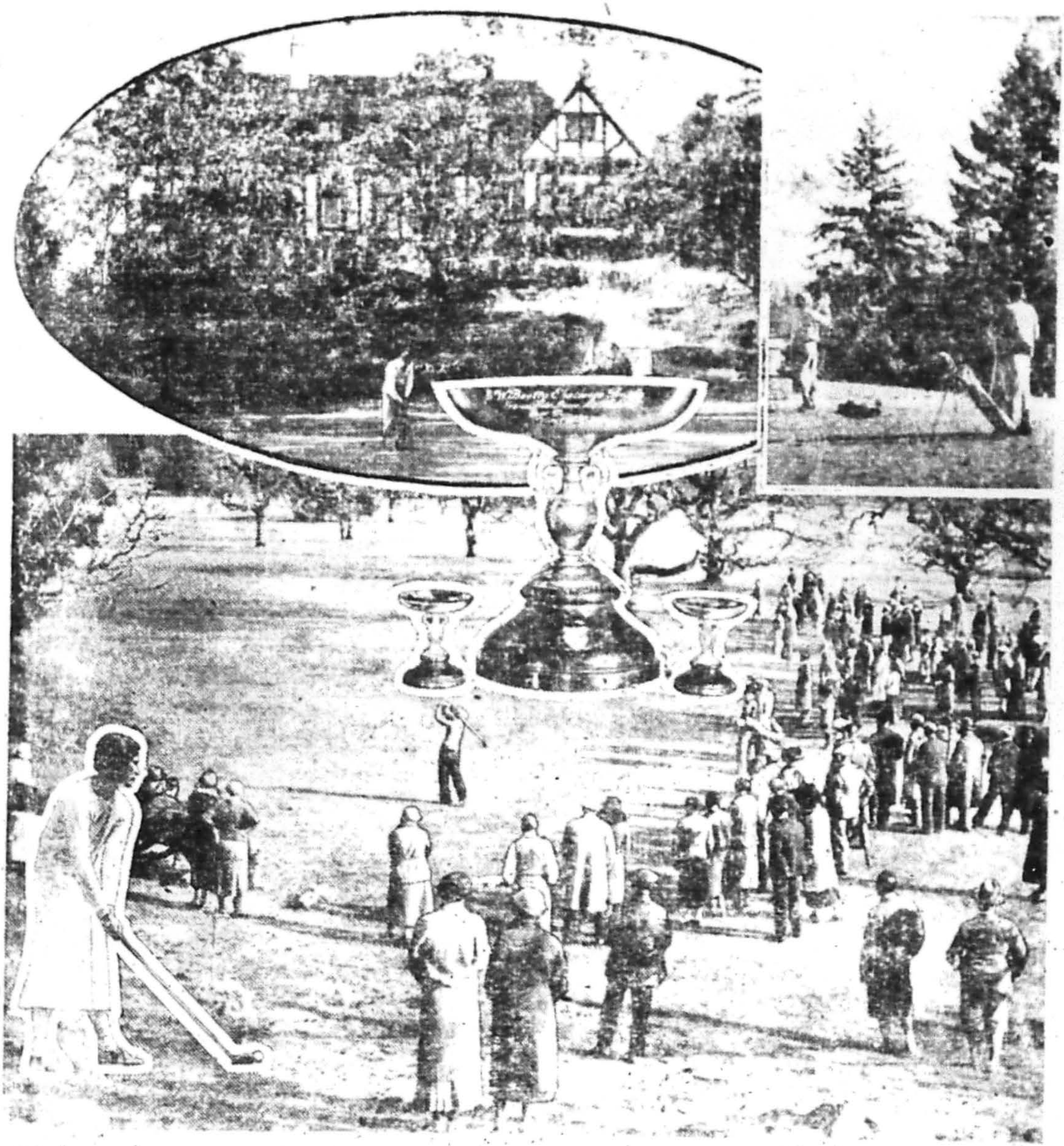
Funeral service was held at Laskay United Church on Sunday. Interment took place in King City cemetery.

five daughters and three sons. They are: Mrs. J. Donnerall, Maple; Mrs. J. T. Maw, Mrs. Albert Palmer, Nashville; Mrs. Elmer Ross, Detroit, Mich.; John, James, and [illegible], Nashville. There are 26 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

93.8 acres to 118.9. These two changes indicate a decrease in size of the farm family and an increase in the total area of occupied land from 16,162,000 acres to 22,841,000 acres. The area improved, however, showed a much greater percentage gain, rising from 8,834,000 acres to 13,273,000.

Golfers Ready for Victoria Meet

40543



While the rest of Canada is [illegible], Victoria, B.C., will be the scene of one of the Dominion's most important — and certainly its most unusual — golf tournament of the year.

Ten years ago Victoria produced its first winter golf meet to prove that Canada too could have winter golf. The idea caught on amazingly, with the result that the tournament has grown steadily. Entries have increased, more trophies are being given, and a record turn-out is expected this year.

Already more than [illegible] entries have been received for the tournament, which commences March 7, from [illegible] Seattle [illegible] with both handicap and scratch events last year, and from Winnipeg, Regina, Saskatoon, Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver. A few Eastern Canadian golfers are also expected for the annual Empress Hotel tourney on the famous Royal Colwood course.

The [illegible]

[illegible] for the Sir Edward Beatty trophy. Other prizes include the Victoria Chamber of Commerce open trophy, match play on a scratch basis, men and women; [illegible] Jack Matson trophy [illegible] Victoria Rotary Club rose bowl for women's [illegible] gross score; and special [illegible] awards.

All [illegible] Empress Hotel and Royal Colwood [illegible] golf [illegible]

J.F.
40544 TJ.

Information from Ollie Matson.

FATHER McSPIRITT CURES

Related by Mrs. Cornelius Murphy (née Ann Trainor) dtr. of Michael Trainor. (now Gore Parish)

1. Recalls her mother apparently on deathbed surrounded by weeping children. Mrs. Trainor had been failing in health for sometime & it appeared that her time had come. Father McSpiritt was sent for & arrived. He stated that Mrs. Trainor would recover. His promise came true. She recovered in brief time, went about her household duties in best of health & lived many years.

2. A cousin of Michael Trainor (King parish) named McGeary, had moved to New Jersey, U.S.A. He became interested in the case of a female school teacher who had become crippled to such an extent that she used two crutches & was pronounced incurable by physicians of the day. McGeary told her of Father McSpiritt & induced her to come to Canada to see him. They first arrived at Trainor home in King. From there they drove to The Gore to see Father McSpiritt. When she left King for New Jersey a few days later she had discarded the crutches. This teacher (a protestant) became a R.C. convert through the cure.

cap

J.F.
T.T.

40545

Information from Ollie Matson.

Related by Mrs. John Francis Byrne, dtr. of Michael Murphy.

3. Her mother had what in those early days was commonly called the 'falling sickness', so named because the person afflicted would fall face forward to the ground with symptoms warning in time to grasp a seat. Mrs. Murphy was mother of a large family & her constant dread was taking a fall while carrying a baby which might result in injury to it. She told Father McSpiritt of this perpetual dread & asked his aid. He told her to have no further fear for she would never again have an attack of 'falling sickness'. She never had.

Related by Jas. Byrne.

4. A neighbor, Mrs. Myers had bad outer goitre, & went to Father McSpiritt. She was non-Catholic. He merely imposed the penalty of no meat on Friday. The goitre ceased troubling her, but some years later on breaking pledge, the goitre trouble returned.

5. Thos. Fenwick, Protestant, subject to fits, was induced by Protestant & R.C. neighbours, alike to seek the aid of

TT

J.F.
T.T.

Information from Ollie Matson. 40546

Father McSpiritt. He was cured & lived to age eighty.

Related by Mrs. Wm. Kennedy, formerly Sarah Ann Doherty, dtr. of Michael Doherty.

6. She was intimate with Father McSpiritt's housekeeper (Mrs. Fox), who told her, that the strangest cure she had seen while at the parish house was that of a woman who entered on two crutches. When leaving she reached the crutches to Mrs. Fox, stating that she had no further use for them.

Related by Cornelius Murphy.

7. John McCarthy -- head disease -- head covered with sores -- complete loss of hair. Went to Father McSpiritt. Sores healed -- hair grew.

Related by Dan Prendergast.

8. John Harrison -- thresher -- heavy engine wheel which smashed off in moving, crushing Harrison's leg between it & frozen ground — (autumn). So badly mangled that doctors declared bone knitting impossible & wanted to amputate. Father McSpiritt was brought. He stated that Harrison's leg would become sound.

TT J.F.
T.T.

Information from Ollie Matson.

40547

Harrison later participated in foot races.

9 & 10. Dan also recalls two cases of 'fit' cures which came under his notice -- a Carberry girl of Tullamore & a Hooper girl of same locality.

Related by Len Wiley -- re himself.

11. He cared for last days of an uncle afflicted with cancer, & after uncle's death found himself in bad condition. In autumn he had blood poison, neuralgia & terrific head pains. Dr. Savage of Weston gave him little or no hope. Anthony Prendergast advised him to see Father McSpiritt, who announced his speedy recovery. Dr. Savage arrived a few days later, expressed surprise, at improved condition, & ascertained that Father McSpiritt had been consulted & advised continuance of medicine. Savage had office two days a week in Woodbridge & pronounced Wiley fit to meet him there, on next trip to stopping place at Tom Hasty's hotel. Wiley went & Dr. Savage drove up shortly after. He examined Wiley & remarked, "if not for Father McSpiritt you would not be here."

The penance imposed in this case was 'no Sunday shaves'. Wiley at age seventy six has never broken that pledge.

TT J.F. T.T.

Information from Ollie Watson. 40548

12. In later years Wiley was troubled with what was known as 'felon' of the thumb, causing extreme pain & debarring him from manual labor. His sister helped dress him on a Sunday morning & he went to Wildfield. After mass Father McSpiritt outside the church, spied the thumb dressing, felt it & announced that it would be better shortly. Wiley was ploughing the next morning, much to the amazement of his protestant hired man -- a fellow named Kitchin.

cap

Related by Mrs. Patrick Keenahan of Albion -- formerly Bridget O'Donnell of The Gore (one time housekeeper for Father McSpiritt).

13. Her brother aged three contracted unknown ailment with complete loss of power of lower limbs. Was carried on a pillow. Case hopeless to doctors. Taken to Father McSpiritt. Wee fellow strove to show him something & the priest thought he meant the new shirt. The mother explained he meant the disease spots on his little hands. The priest said he would soon have no spots & would be walking about.

There was a gradual but complete recovery. This little chap lived to age seventy & became father of nine children.